

REMARKS

Claims 1-12 and 14-17 are pending. Claims 13 and 18 have been cancelled. No new matter has been added.

The Office Action rejects claims 13 and 18 under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph. This rejection is moot as claims 13 and 18 have been cancelled.

The Office Action rejects claim 2 under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite. Claim 2 has been amended to clarify that the meshing can be one or both of interleaving and dentations.

The Office Action rejects claims 1-3 and 5-8 under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Charpentier (U.S. Patent No. 5,291,018). Applicants respectfully assert that Charpentier fails to disclose or suggest the features of claims 1-3 and 5-8, which include at least two of the sensitive areas meshing with one another by positioning a portion of one of the sensitive areas in a fully enclosed free area of another one of the sensitive areas. Charpentier shows the following detector geometries:

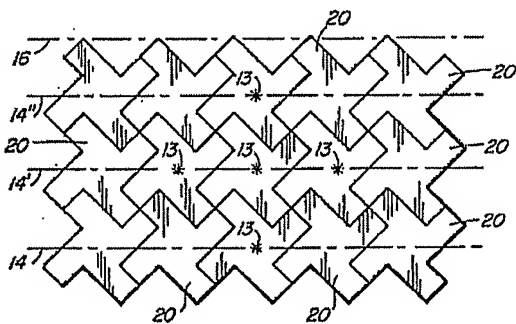


FIG. 5

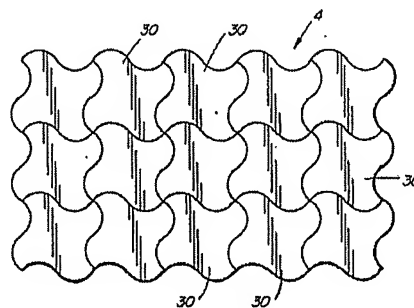


FIG. 8

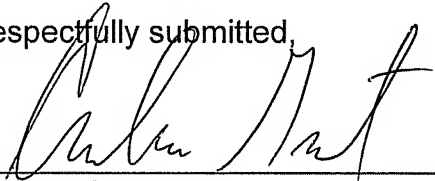
Charpentier does not disclose or suggest at least two of the sensitive areas mesh with one another by positioning a portion of one of the sensitive areas in a fully enclosed free area of another one of the sensitive areas as in claims 1-3 and 5-8.

The Office Action rejects claim 4 under 35 U.S.C. 103 as being obvious over Charpentier. For the above-described reasons, Charpentier fails to disclose or suggest the features of claim 4, which include at least two of the sensitive areas meshing with one another by positioning a portion of one of the sensitive areas in a fully enclosed free area of another one of the sensitive areas.

The Office Action rejects claim 7 under 35 U.S.C. 103 as being obvious over Charpentier in view of Marshall (U.S. Patent No. 5,291,018). For the above described reasons, Charpentier fails to disclose or suggest the features of claim 7 which include at least two of the sensitive areas meshing with one another by positioning a portion of one of the sensitive areas in a fully enclosed free area of another one of the sensitive areas. Similarly, Marshall fails to disclose or suggest this feature. Marshall describes a detector with an array of side-by-side photo-detecting elements 528. As such, the combination of Charpentier and Marshall fails to disclose or suggest the features of claim 7, which include at least two of the sensitive areas meshing with one another by positioning a portion of one of the sensitive areas in a fully enclosed free area of another one of the sensitive areas.

Accordingly, for at least the above-described reasons, withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested. Favorable consideration and early issuance of the Notice of Allowance are respectfully requested.

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Respectfully submitted,


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